



The Fire Service News



New Hampshire Fire Academy



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A Service of New Hampshire Division of Fire Standards & Training

"Training on the Leading Edge"

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Dear New Hampshire Fire Service:

A very Happy New Year to all; it is hard to believe that the year 2000 is less than 365 days away! The New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Fire Standards and Training has had a very busy year, working for the Fire Service of New Hampshire.

- The new firefighter curriculum is now operating in full swing.
- We have initiated the process for New Hampshire fire certification to be Nationally accredited through the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications, Inc. This process should be completed by mid-year. Our certification programs will then have significant meaning in other states as well as New Hampshire.
- A self-contained breathing apparatus maze trailer and a 36-foot class "A" burn trailer have been purchased, which can be used in the field as well as the Academy.
- A new burn building was installed at the Fire Academy which features a five-story tower with standpipe system, a 2 1/2 story commercial/residential mock-up with a flat and peaked roof, 3 class "A" burn rooms, and a confined space simulator.
- The first flashover simulator in New England was purchased and installed at the Fire Academy. We are presently exploring the feasibility of placing this prop on a flat-bed trailer for use in the field.
- We are working with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics to secure a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration to acquire props for the Fire Academy to be the New England Airport Rescue Firefighter training center.
- We are looking at our hazardous materials, driver-operator, and fire instructor curriculums for probable updates. This is also to assure our programs match the requirements for accreditation.
- We are presently seeking funding sources to allow up to 20 firefighter courses to be presented in the field, either at a very low tuition or no tuition.

As you can see we are making every attempt to be user friendly and offer the best possible services to the Fire Service in New Hampshire, as you deserve the very best.

Again I thank you for all you do for the citizens of this great state and have a great 1999!

Sincerely,

Rick Mason, Director

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE TO NEW HAMPSHIRE FIREFIGHTERS

Subscriptions to the bi-monthly Newsletter are available to NH Firefighters at no charge simply by completing the request below.

Name: _____

S.S. # _____ D.O.B. _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Fire Dept. Affiliation: Full Time Career (over \$10,000 Annually?): Yes () No ()

Primary Fire Department: _____

Rank: _____

Secondary Fire Department: _____ Rank: _____

Highest Level of Education: High School () College 2 yr. () College 4 yrs. () Post Grad. ()

Levels of Certification:

FF I () FF Career () FF 2 () FF 3 () D/O () 1st Resp. () EMT () B () A () I ()

Other: _____

EMS: _____

State Instructor: Yes () No () If yes, certified courses taught in the last year:

Title	Location	Cref # (if available)	Dates	Hours

Submit Completed Subscription Request Forms To:

Newsletter Request
New Hampshire Fire Academy
10 Hazen Drive
Concord NH 03305

Calendar of Events

Wed	Jan 6	Firefighter I (A&B) 2 Saturdays/Month Begins	NHFA
Wed	Jan 6	NH Fire Standards & Training Commission Meeting	NHFA
Wed	Jan 6	Registration Deadline-Instructor Development Workshop	NHFA
Mon	Jan 11	Signing for the Emergency Responder-Deaf Victims Begins	NHFA
Wed	Jan 13	Instructor Development Workshop-Dr. Larry Ritcey	NHFA
Sun	Jan 17	IAFF Local 856 Firefighter Ski Muster	Loon
Mon	Feb 1	Registration Deadline-Firefighter I (Sections A&B) Monday and Wednesday Evenings from March 8 to August 30, 1999	NHFA
Mon	Feb 1	Registration Deadline-Firefighter II Tuesday and Thursday Evenings from March 9 to June 8, 1999	NHFA
Wed	Feb 3	NH Fire Standards & Training Commission Meeting	NHFA
Fri	Feb 19	Registration Deadline-Fire Officer Spring 1999 Program	NHFA
Sat	Feb 20	Infection Control for Emergency Response Personnel (ICERP)	NHFA
Sun	Feb 21	Day Two of ICERP	NHFA

Upcoming Events

March 8, 1999	Firefighter I (Sections A&B) Orientation	NHFA
March 9, 1999	Firefighter II Orientation	NHFA
March 13 & 14, 1999 ...	Community Risk Issues and Prevention Interventions (CRIPI)	NHFA
March 15-21, 1999	FDIC (Fire Department Instructors Conference)	Indianapolis
April 1999	(Dates and times to be announced in NH Fire Department Monthly Mailing)	
.....	Driver/Operator-All Vehicles Certification Program	NHFA
.....	Driver/Operator-Pumping Apparatus Certification Program	NHFA
June 26 - June 28, 1999	New England Association of Fire Chiefs 77th Annual Fire/Rescue/EMS Expo and Conference at Eastern States Exposition, Home of the "Big E", West Springfield, Massachusetts. There will be over 350 exhibits of equipment, apparatus, and ambulances on display. Admission and parking are free. Exhibit information- Charles F. Maurais-Tel/Fax (781) 631-3086. Conference information-Richard K. Wehter-Tel (781)749-8626/Fax (781) 749-8817.	

North Country Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.

New Addresses!!

North Country Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service

Rick DeMark, Project Coordinator

719 North Main Street - Room 220, Laconia, NH 03246-2772 • (603) 527-2093 • FAX: (603) 527-2095

Southern NH Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council

Elizabeth Schmucker, Project Coordinator

The Concord Center, Box 4, 10 Ferry Street - Suite 422, Concord, NH 03301 • (603) 223-0083 • FAX: (603) 223-0084



CHOOSING AN OFFICER

The American Fire Service requires much of its officers in the way of knowledge, competency, leadership, and courage. To promote should be of great concern to the department and in turn the citizens of the jurisdiction being protected. Officer selection cannot in good conscience be based upon popularity, cronyism or political favor. Too much depends on the potential of the person being promoted. Will they live up to the demands of the position.

At mid-Century fire officers were not held liable for their conduct under the legal implication that only they could judge their actions. Such is no longer the case. Officers and departments have been found guilty not only by the citizenry, but by their peers. Little difference has been paid to those who perform as volunteers—nor should it!

With the advent of NFPA 1500, the role of those who are members of the fire service as been standardized; and, whether a town incorporates 1500 or not, it is the measure by which legal judgement is decided. In our State, we find a chief who was forced to resign because, in the view of the department members, he lacked the ability to command, had not insisted on adequate training, had promoted less than acceptable members, and failed to maintain equipment. In another part-paid, part-volunteer department, a deputy chief asked to be demoted, having lost confidence in the chief. In larger career departments, chiefs have departed for sundry reasons. Nor is the lack of ability, etc., limited to personnel issues. Officers have been charged for the misplacement of resources, failure to take appropriate action, thus increasing financial loss, sexual harassment, and conduct prejudicial to the public good. One might ask how did these people achieve their rank?

Since the inception of an organized fire service, advancement has been effected by:

- Promotion by higher authority
- Competitive examination
- Election

In the career field, promotion by higher authority (i.e., the chief or aldermen) led to cronyism and favoritism—all driven by financial gain.

Shortly after the turn of the Century, in order to secure competent fire officers, government turned to the merit (civil service) competitive examination process. Today with few exceptions fire officers in city departments are chosen in this manner. A further attempt to strengthen the selection process is seen with the entrance requirements for career service. In order to retain employment in New Hampshire, a career firefighter must possess a high school diploma, pass a written and a physical entrance examination, have a clean criminal record, and be certified to Firefighter II within one year of employment. Certification insures that the individual taking the officers' examination has been trained to an acceptable level. Thus a prerequisite for promotion in the career field is certification.



Advancement in the volunteer/call field is usually accomplished through selection or election. The author must note there are several volunteer/call departments in the State that rely (to their credit) on competitive examinations.

Selection may be made by the chief after observing the performance of members. The chief may also be inclined by friendship or family ties. A more equitable and effective method may use a board consisting of officers and members, thus allowing for a more balanced view. Here great care needs to be taken as to the makeup of the board.

Finally, there are departments in New Hampshire that elect their members. While democracy over time tends to select or reject the best available. The responsibilities of a fire officer do not provide the latitude for incompetence. Election is based more often on popularity, friendship, and family ties than qualifications. Election, especially if its on an annual basis, requires the officer to be "one of the boys" if he wants to hold office. Election, if prerequisites are required (i.e., certification as a minimum), can be most effective. Those casting their votes should be fully apprised of the consequence of their choice and the ramifications for themselves, their department, and the citizens of the town. Each voter should ask themselves: Would I want this officer to lead me in a situation which is usually dangerous and could become deadly. In other words, would I place my life (and those of the other members) in this person's hands.

If a department elects its officers, it should have prerequisites for consideration. Foremost is training which indicates the competence and, in the volunteer service, the real interest the person has in preparing oneself for command. At the least, the volunteer officer candidate should have the same certification as his/her career brother or sister firefighter. A chief who promotes or condones the promotion of an uncertified officer will have in command a person who is not proficient in the rudiments of firefighting; is not Awareness, Operational, or ICS trained; and who may well be asked to lead those who die.

Promotions without the above considerations leaves the chief, the selectmen, and/or the town manager in jeopardy should legal action be brought due to the inability of an officer to perform acceptably.

The fire service officer in this, the twilight of the 20th Century, like the development of the flying machine, is light years ahead of his contemporaries. Today's fire officer faces a host of challenges that his predecessor could not have dreamed of. On the fireground, materials, liquids, and compounds that were unheard of only 50 years ago test his/her capabilities. A new mix of firefighter brings to the "house" the ethnic and gender problems that the "lily white" officer of yesterday could not. The fire officer of this age is one of management, performance, syllogism.

We have come a long way and we need officers to continue on this exciting and dangerous path. Choose well—your life and other lives may depend on it.

New Hampshire Fire Service

"A Year in the Life"

Photo Essay Contest

Sponsored by the New Hampshire Division of Fire Standards and Training

A photo essay contest open to members of the New Hampshire fire service, professional and amateur photographers, and other non-fire service individuals. The photographs submitted would depict the daily life of members of the New Hampshire fire service. The purpose would be to show the personal or human side of fire service life. It is our intention to publish these photographs in the Fire Academy calendar and possibly in softbound book or newspaper insert form. These photographs will also be part of a display that we will exhibit across the state. The contest will include one (1) Grand Prize and additional separate awards in two categories. (Press/News Photograph and Amateur Photograph). We will publish a list of any additional monetary or material awards before September 1, 1999.

The contest will end September 1, 1999 with the awards being presented during the New Hampshire State Firemen's Convention to be held in Merrimack, NH in September of 1999.

1. All materials submitted shall become the property of the New Hampshire Division of Fire Standards and Training. Photo credit shall be awarded to the photographer in all displays.
2. All materials submitted shall be authenticated and ownership established prior to any award. Any person submitting materials determined not to be authentic or unauthorized shall forfeit any award and be responsible for restitution in full of any award expended or used.
3. The ONLY formats that will be accepted are:
 - A. 35 mm color slides (with an accompanying 5" X 7" glossy finish print).
 - B. 5" X 7" glossy finish color prints, including the negative.
 - C. 5" X 7" glossy B&W prints, including the negative.
4. Information required is outlined on the entry form.
5. Deadline for submission:
Completed form and submission materials must be received by the Division of Fire Standards & Training by 4:00 p.m. on September 1, 1999.
6. Entries should be mailed to: New Hampshire Fire Academy
10 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03305

Questions, please contact Captain Charles Roffo at 603-271-2661.



Fire Chief

The Town of Milford, New Hampshire, with a population of 13,000, is seeking a replacement for retiring fire chief, April 30, 1999. The department has 45 on-call members with one part-time inspector and an office staff of one. The department operates one station with four engine companies, one ladder company, one heavy rescue, one utility, and one forestry. The department has an annual budget of \$ 280,000.

Candidate must have a BA/BS in Fire Science, Public Administration, or closely-related field, ten years experience in fire service, with at least five years in a supervisory position.

Salary ranges \$43,000.00-\$ 50,000.00.

Interested applicants should send resume and letter of interest to: Milford Fire Department-Assistant Chief Jack Kelly-39 School Street-Milford, NH 03055 by January 17, 1999.



NVFC Offers Arson Detection Course For Volunteers

February 27-28, 1999

NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY

Emmitsburg, Maryland

Arson Detection and Prevention in Rural Communities is a two-day seminar that has been developed by the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) and the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) in conjunction with the U.S. Fire Administration, to address the challenges facing the volunteer fire service in Arson Detection and Prevention. After attending the two-day course, the attendees should be able to recognize the red flags of an incendiary fire, as well as having the ability to institute prevention programs in rural communities.

The seminar will be held at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland the weekend of February 27-28, 1999.

The course will cover the following topics:

- * As a result of the church arson fires, the National Arson Clearinghouse, under the auspices of the U.S. Fire Administration, was established. A tremendous amount of information and contacts are available through the Clearinghouse. The National Arson Prevention Initiative coordinator, Mr. Tim O'Dowd, will speak to the group about the clearinghouse.
- * Agent Timothy Huff of the Profiling Unit with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Quantico, Virginia will outline how the serial arsonist is profiled and prosecuted. Mr. Huff has worked with the NVFC on a firefighter arson project; he is also a member of the IAAI and is a past member of the Board of Directors.
- * Mr. John McDermott, a former firefighter with the Morris Town, New Jersey Fire Department, and currently an investigator with the Morris Town Prosecuting Attorney's Office, will cover the other agencies who assist local fire and police as well as the red flags for the first-in firefighter in arson detection. He will list the other agencies different from fire and police departments that can be of assistance in Arson Detection and Prevention. The firefighter will relearn his important responsibility in detecting the first signs of an incendiary fire.
- * Juvenile fire setter prevention, recognition and correction are a duty of the Juvenile Fire Setter Committee of the IAAI. This committee will furnish the instructors to talk about the juvenile fire setter programs and the success rate of these programs.

The seminar fees are \$225 for NVFC members and \$250 for nonmembers. However, this is a special offering from the NVFC - all fees for this seminar are WAIVED. The NVFC will cover the costs of the seminar and meals for both days. Participants will be responsible for travel and room accommodations.

For registration information, contact NVFC at 1-888-ASK-NVFC (275-6832).

New Hampshire Fire Standards & Training Commission Members

REPRESENTING:

Commissioner of Education

Dr. G. William Porter

Attorney General

Stephen Judge

Forest Protection - Chief

Robert (Bud) D. Nelson

NH Fire Chiefs Association - Career

Brian J. Thibeault

NH Fire Chiefs Association - Volunteer

Harold Harbour

Professional Firefighters of NH - IAFF

David Duquette

Fire Instructors & Officers

Association of NH

Dr. Henry W. Munroe

Federation of Fire Mutual Aids

Association

Roger Hatfield

NH State Firemen's Association

Paul E. Fortier

Insurance Industry of NH

John C. Hoglund

NH Municipal Association

Peter Russell

NH Permanent Firemen's Association

Karl J. Berardi

NH Fire Prevention Society

Charles L. Chalk

Division of Fire Safety - Director
(State Fire Marshal)

Donald P. Bliss

Executive Officer:

Division of Fire Standards &
Training - Director

Richard A. Mason

“Meeting Tomorrow’s Challenges. . . Today!”

Robert Farley, N.H. State Fire Marshal’s Office

The New Hampshire State Fire Marshal’s Office is embarking upon a new all incident reporting system. NFIRS 5.0 is a new all incident based reporting system which meets the challenge of the fire service. The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) was established as a result of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974. This act authorized the United States Fire Administration (USFA) to gather and analyze data on the nation’s fire problem. The New Hampshire Fire Incident Reporting System (NHFIRS) is the vehicle for which that data collection takes place.

Over the past 20 years, NFIRS has evolved into a system which captures information from 42 states, with 14,000 participating fire departments, and is the largest database of fire information in the world.

The challenge of the modern fire services demands a system which is current and which utilizes current technology. This system must be expandable with the ability to provide more information for current and future fire services leaders.

Previous versions of NFIRS have had a reputation of serving the needs of others rather than local fire departments. The fire service is engaging in an ever-increasing array of emergency activities, including EMS, technical rescue, fires in the urban/wildland interface, and hazardous materials incidents. NFIRS 5.0 allows for the reporting of a greater range of incidents and fire department actions taken. The development of NFIRS 5.0 was based upon 20 years of experience. It is designed to be usable at all three levels of government: local, state and federal. It has been accepted by all information partners and takes advantage of current technologies.

The new version improves upon the standardization in reporting and should result in a more accurate database. This will help

identify the major fire problems as well as determine the possible solutions. The new system will enhance the user’s ability to identify the problems and issues associated with fire prevention, public education, suppression, and special needs. It can assist communities with long range planning with service needs, equipment needs, station location, identify trends and water distribution systems. It will be used by fire departments as a management tool for budgeting, performance measurement, program development, tracking activities, justifying expenditures and developing equipment and staffing needs. The biggest asset of NFIRS 5.0 to the fire department user will be enhanced simplicity of reporting and its ability to expand for growing needs. In some cases the fire officer may only have to fill out the first module for a majority of the calls that we face.

A highlight of the new system is the expanded modular design which allows departments to complete only that information which is pertinent to the incident. Since it is an all-incident based system, it incorporates modules for EMS, Wildland, and Haz-Mat as well as the regular modules. Resources are measured with accuracy which will assist fire departments in manpower allocations. Mutual Aid resources are also recorded in both given and received situations to alleviate double counting at the state level.

The system is computer based which also allows for quicker reporting and more real-time feedback. The expansion of computerized reporting will reduce the data entry required at the state level. If you are currently involved in computerized reporting, please call your vendor and talk to them about NFIRS 5.0. If you are interested in computerizing your incident reporting, please call the N.H. State Fire Marshal’s Office – NHFIRS Section at (603) 271-3294 for information on how to **“Fight Fires with Facts.”**

St. Anselm College - Financial Aid For Family Members of Public Safety Employees

St. Anselm College, Office of Financial Aid may provide additional information on financial aid opportunities for family members of public safety employees. There is no specific financial need, nor scholarship criteria applied. For additional information, please call the Office of Financial Aid at (603) 641-7110.



NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY PROGRAMS



1998-1999 Direct Delivery Program

Infection Control for Emergency Response

Personnel : Supervisor's Role (ICERP)

This course is designed to improve the understanding of fire service officers and emergency medical service first-line supervisors about protection of the individual and department/station personnel from a full range of infectious diseases spread through occupational or other exposure.

DATE(S): February 20 and 21, 1999

TIME(S): 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (both days)

LOCATION: New Hampshire Fire Academy, 222 Sheep Davis Road, Route 106, Concord, New Hampshire

CLASS SIZE: 30 students

COST: \$ 20.00 (Checks made payable to: N.H.F.S. & T.)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Fire and emergency medical personnel who have responsibility for managing basic life support (operations level) emergency medical care at hazardous materials incidents.

HOW TO APPLY: Complete New Hampshire Fire Academy AND National Fire Academy applications and return them with payment to:

New Hampshire Department of Safety
Division of Fire Standards and Training
10 Hazen Drive
Concord, New Hampshire 03305

1998-1999 Direct Delivery Program

Community Risk Issues and Prevention

Interventions (CRIPI)

The course is designed for students who work in the field of prevention.

Students learn a basic overview of the three E's of prevention - education, engineering and enforcement. The course concludes that the most effective way to combat community risk issues is to develop strategies that use all three E's. The course is designed to provide the motivation and leadership for local organizations to enhance their prevention efforts.

DATE(S): March 13 and 14, 1999

TIME(S): 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (both days)

LOCATION: New Hampshire Fire Academy, 222 Sheep Davis Road, Route 106, Concord, New Hampshire

CLASS SIZE: 30 students

COST: \$ 20.00 (Checks made payable to: N.H.F.S. & T.)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Prevention personnel; fire marshals, inspectors, and public educators; career and volunteer firefighters with prevention; public educators; community health educators.

HOW TO APPLY: Complete New Hampshire Fire Academy AND National Fire Academy applications and return them with payment to:

New Hampshire Department of Safety
Division of Fire Standards and Training
10 Hazen Drive
Concord, New Hampshire 03305



NH FOREST FIRE SERVICES

News & Notes



Remember . . . Safety First . . . On Every Incident . . . Every Time!

This year New Hampshire has sent five crews on out-of-state fires. During the summer months one was sent to Minnesota, one was sent to Florida, and an engine strike team was sent to Texas. We had a fire crew leave for Virginia just before Thanksgiving and return on December 6th. On that same date we sent a fire crew to Alabama. Their return date is unknown at this time. Our thanks to all the fire departments and firefighters that participated in these events.

So far in 1998, we have had 723 wildland fires that burned 413 acres. The number of fires is almost equal to last year, but there have been three times the amount of acreage burned. The top three causes are: (1) illegal fires, (2) unknown, and (3) children.

Ice Storm Community Forestry Grants - Part 2

A second round of the Ice Storm Community Forestry Grants Program will be announced shortly. These grants will be available to communities for damage assessment, long-range planning, access, debris clearance, and restoration. Up to \$24,000 is available to each New Hampshire community (excluding those in Rockingham County). The deadline for these grants will be February 25, 1999. Community Forestry Grant representatives will be making contact with communities to discuss the program and community needs, and to assist with the preparation of the grant application.

Wildland fire suppression equipment and personal protection equipment for fire suppression is not eligible under this grant program. However, in order to qualify for future Ice Storm Rural Fire Protection Equipment Funds (that will be available early next year), a damage assessment of the community must be completed. Monies to do this damage assessment can be applied for under this grant program. For more information contact the Forestry Information Center at 1-800-444-8978.



NH BUREAU OF EMS REPORT

(603) 271-4568/NH: 1-800-852-3345 x 4568

With the start of a new calendar year, noted below are numerous on-going projects which the Bureau is currently involved in:

- * EMS interface on domestic violence issues
- * EMS interagency response to terrorism
- * Program development on assault prevention to EMS providers
- * Update of Local Option Patient Care Protocols
- * Expansion of the NH EMS Medications List
- * Statewide implementation of rules on DNR, Living Wills, and Durable Powers of Attorney
- * Implementation process for new US DOT EMT-Intermediate & Paramedic curricula
- * Updates for EMT Instructor/Coordinators
- * Updating of First Responder & EMT-Basic Practical Exams
- * Development of orientation program for new EMS Instructor/Coordinators

- * Formation of rules for EMS Instructor/Coordinators
- * Development of new EMS Training Rules
- * Continuation of Practical Examination Evaluator Training & Education Program (PEETE)
- * First Responder interface to National Registry of EMT's certification

Congratulations to Captain David Duquette, Dover Fire/Rescue, who recently was named as the NH Fire Standards & Training Commission representative to the NH EMS Medical & Trauma Coordinating Board.

Chief Michael Howard, Wolfeboro Fire/Rescue, continues to serve as the NH Association of Fire Chiefs representative to the Board.

Sincere thanks and best wishes to Chief Larry Wahl, Newington Fire Department, on his retirement from lengthy service on the Board which included serving as Chairman of the group.

The newly elected Chairman of the Coordinating Board is George Patterson, EMS Coordinator at Concord Hospital.

NEW HAMPSHIRE RETIREMENT SYSTEM



The Granite State

Providing A Lifetime Pension to Survivors before You Retire..

NHRS members who are eligible to retire but continue to work may designate any one person of their choice or any number of their children to receive their pension upon their death before retirement. This is referred to as *pre-selecting a survivorship option*. Group I members (employees and teachers) are eligible to make a pre-selection at age 60 or older; Group II members (firefighters and police officers) are eligible to make a pre-selection at age 60 or older, or at age 45 or older with at least 20 years of creditable service. There is no cost to make a pre-selection, and members can change their pre-selection at any time by filing the appropriate form with NHRS.

Once members are ready to retire, they must file an application for retirement benefits with NHRS. They will need to decide whether or not they want to elect a reduced retirement pension under a survivorship option, and they must designate a beneficiary(ies) on the retirement application even if they name the same person(s) that they designated on the pre-selection form. Their beneficiary designation on the retirement application will replace their beneficiary designation on the pre-selection form.

By making a pre-selection, members provide their beneficiary(ies) with a *choice* between the pre-selected survivorship pension and

the ordinary death benefit. A survivorship pension, payable to the member's designated beneficiary(ies) for the beneficiary's(ies) lifetime, would be equal to 100% of the pension that the member would have received had he or she retired. Under the ordinary death benefit, however, a pension equal to 50% of the member's earned pension is payable only to the member's surviving spouse until the spouse's remarriage or death. Otherwise, if the member's designated beneficiary is someone other than the spouse, or if the spouse is the designated beneficiary but prefers a lump sum payment instead of the pension, a lump sum payment equal to the member's annual earnings plus a refund of the member's contributions with earned interest is payable.

The person(s) named on the pre-selection form must be the same person(s) that the member named on the most recent NHRS pre-retirement death beneficiary designation form or other applicable NHRS form; if the designations do not match, the pre-selection will not apply, and only the ordinary death benefit would be payable. Pre-selections are not automatic. Members are required to complete and sign a pre-selection form, which must be notarized. To make a pre-selection, members should contact a retirement counselor by calling (603) 271-3351.



New Hampshire Driver/Operator - All Vehicle Certification Programs



The New Hampshire Municipal Association, Property-Liability Trust (NHMA/PLIT) and the State of New Hampshire, Division of Fire Standards & Training - New Hampshire Fire Academy (NHFA) are working together to provide certified driver training programs to New Hampshire emergency responders.

Programs are offered at minimal, and in some cases, no cost to New Hampshire emergency responders. Practical driving exercises are conducted on a driving course specifically designed to facilitate efficient and safe emergency driving instruction. April 1999 classes are now being scheduled. Please contact Tom McDermott (NHMA) @ 1-800-646-2758 or Bill Clark (NHFA) @ 1-800-371-4503 for information.

CPSC, Pacific Scientific Co. Announce Recall of Treadmills

Washington, DC—In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Pacific Scientific Co., of Rockford, Ill., is recalling over 71,000 treadmills. An electrical short can occur in the treadmills' motors, presenting electrocution, shock and fire hazards to consumers.

CPSC and Pacific Scientific are not aware of any injuries involving these treadmills. This recall is being conducted to prevent the possibility of injury.

The treadmills being recalled have been manufactured as various models by eight companies. Pacific Scientific Co. manufactured the motors used in the recalled treadmills. The following table identifies the specific models being recalled and the manufacturer name under which the treadmills were sold. The manufacturer's name, and model number or name are found on the treadmill itself.

TREADMILL MFG.	MODEL	WHEN SOLD
Aerobics	Pacemaster Pro Plus Auto Incline	17,288 sold from November
	Pacemaster Pro Plus Heart Rate Control,	1997 through October 1998
	PaceMaster Pro-Plus,	
	PaceMaster Pro-Plus HR	
Aerobic Technologies	APT1, AT1, Polaris T845, Medicostride, Platinum	1,245 sold from October 1997 through October 1998
Bodyguard Fitness	Magellon, Odyssey LS, Odyssey LS2	458 sold from September 1998 through October 1998
Conetex	Athlon IQ2	3,346 sold from May 1997 through October 1998
Precor	940, 944, 9.17, 9.21SI, 9.2II, 9.25I, 9.41SI, 9.21, 9.21S, 9.17SI, 9.41S, 9.25	22,645 sold from June 1997 through October 1998
Tunturi	J550, J660, J661F, J770	3,651 sold from February 1998 through October 1998
True Fitness	350 series, 450 series, 500 series, 700 series, 725 series	22,074 sold from July 1997 through October 1998
Kurt Manufacturing	TM940, TM940R, TM960	540 sold from May 1997 through October 1998

Fitness and specialty stores nationwide, including Atlantic Fitness, Busy Body, Fitness Experience, Fitness in Motion, Fitness Stores, Fitness Superstores and Fitness Warehouse, sold the treadmills for about \$1,500 to \$5,000.

Consumers should immediately unplug the recalled treadmills and call Pacific Scientific Co. anytime at (888) 340-4975 for information on participating in the recall. Pacific Scientific Co. will arrange for local dealers to go to consumers' homes, and inspect and repair the treadmills. Consumers should not use the treadmills until the repair has been made.

Treadmill models sold after November 1, 1998, are not part of the recall.

CPSC and Sunbeam Products Inc. Announce Recall of Gas Grills With Side Burners

Washington, DC—In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Sunbeam Products Inc., of Neosho, Mo., is recalling for repair approximately 80,000 Grillmaster gas grills with side burners. The side burner's propane gas hose can twist up toward the aluminum casting of the grill, causing overheating and melting of the hose. Gas leakage or a fire could result from the hose damage.

Sunbeam Products received one complaint from a consumer who requested a replacement hose due to damage caused from the heat of the grill casting. There have been no reports of injuries associated with these grills.

The recalled grills are black and have a side burner for cooking, similar to a gas range stove top. The model numbers of the grills are: 56GR8, 560Ri, 562D1, 562D9, GC548517, GG546517, GS544417, GS544717, GS546517, GG546537

and GG547517. The complete model numbers can be found on the identification label on the back of the grill, and on the assembly instructions and parts list. The word, 'GRILLMASTER' is written on the front of these grills.

Mass merchandise stores, such as Bradlees, Caldor, the Home Depot, Service Merchandise and Wal-Mart sold the grills nationwide from 1996 through July 1998 for about \$200 to \$250.

Consumers should stop using the recalled grills immediately and call Sunbeam toll-free at (888)892-8150 anytime to receive a free retrofit kit. The retrofit kit contains a wire bracket guard and instructions for each installation that will correctly position the side burner's propane gas hose.

In March 1998, Sunbeam Products recalled grills with model numbers GG 461 EPB, GG 560 EPB, HG 560 EPB and GG 560 EPBS because of a similar hose placement hazard.

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Submissions to The Fire Service News are encouraged. For consideration, articles and photographs should be of interest to New Hampshire firefighters and the greater fire service community. Black & White photographs provide the best clarity. Direct submissions, with appropriate publication releases, to:

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